THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A transdermal dosage form comprising:

an active agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof;

an adverse agent in the form of a free base; and

an adverse agent in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

2. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the adverse agent in the form of a free base is in an amount sufficient to inhibit at least one biological effect of the active agent or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the adverse agent is in an amount sufficient to inhibit at least one biological effect of the active agent or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein both the adverse agent in the form of a free base and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the adverse agent are in an amount sufficient to inhibit at least one biological effect of the active agent or acceptable salt thereof.

5. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the adverse agent and the adverse agent in the form of a free base are based on the same adverse agent.

6. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the amount of the active agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is from about 0.1 to about 500 mg and the weight ratio of the active agent, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to the total amount of adverse agent in the form of a free base and pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an adverse agent is from about 15:1 to about 1:5.

7. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the amount of the active agent or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is from about 0.1 to about 500 mg and the weight ratio of the active agent, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,

to the total amount of adverse agent in the form of a free base and pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an adverse agent is from about 12:1 to about 4:1.

8. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the transdermal dosage form comprises a reservoir comprising the active agent, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, the adverse agent in the form of a free base and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an adverse agent.

9. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the transdermal dosage form is a polymer-matrix-type transdermal dosage form.

10. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the transdermal dosage form is a drug-in-adhesive-type transdermal dosage form.

11. The transdermal dosage form of claim 1, wherein the active agent is an opioid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; and both the adverse agent in the form of a free base and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an adverse agent are opioid antagonists.

12. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base is in an amount sufficient to inhibit the euphoric effect of the opioid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the opioid antagonist is in an amount sufficient to inhibit the euphoric effect of the opioid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

14. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein both the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the opioid antagonist are in an amount sufficient to inhibit the euphoric effect of the opioid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

15. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of the opioid antagonist and the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base are based on the same opioid antagonist.

16. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the amount of the opioid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is from about 0.1 to about 500 mg and the weight ratio of the opioid, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to the total amount of opioid antagonist in the form of a free base and pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an opioid antagonist is from about 15:1 to about 1:5.

17. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the amount of the opioid or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, is from about 0.1 to about 500 mg and the weight ratio of the opioid, or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to the total amount of opioid antagonist in the form of a free base and pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an opioid antagonist is from about 12:1 to about 4:1.

18. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the transdermal dosage form comprises a reservoir comprising the opioid, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an opioid antagonist.

19. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the transdermal dosage form is a polymer-matrix-type transdermal dosage form.

20. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the transdermal dosage form is a drug-in-adhesive-type transdermal dosage form.

21. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the opioid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is selected from the group consisting of alfentanil, allylprodine, alphaprodine, anileridine, benzylmorphine, bezitramide, buprenorphine, butorphanol, clonitazene, codeine, desomorphine, dextromoramide, dezocine, diampromide, diamorphone, dihydrocodeine, dihydromorphine, dihydromorphone, dihydroisomorphine, dimenoxadol, dimepheptanol, dimethylthiambutene, dioxaphetyl butyrate, dipipanone, eptazocine, ethoheptazine, ethylmethylthiambutene, ethylmorphine, etonitazene, etorphine, dihydroetorphine, fentanyl, heroin, hydrocodone, hydromorphone, hydromorphodone, hydroxypethidine, isomethadone, ketobemidone, levorphanol, levophenacylmorphan, lofentanil, meperidine, meptazinol, metazocine, methadone, metopon, morphine, myrophine, narceine, nicomorphine, norlevorphanol, normethadone, nalorphine, nalbuphene, normorphine, norpipanone, opium, oxycodone, oxymorphone, pantopon, papaveretum,

paregoric, pentazocine, phenadoxone, phendimetrazine, phendimetrazone, phenomorphan, phenazocine, phenoperidine, piminodine, piritramide, propheptazine, promedol, properidine, propoxyphene, propylhexedrine, sufentanil, tilidine, tramadol, pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof and mixtures of any two or more thereof.

22. The transdermal dosage form of claim 21, wherein the opioid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is oxycodone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. The transdermal dosage form of claim 21, wherein the opioid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is hydrocodone or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. The transdermal dosage form of claim 21, wherein the opioid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is buprenorphine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. The transdermal dosage form of claim 21, wherein the opioid or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof is fentanyl or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

26. The transdermal dosage form of claim 25, wherein the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base is naltrexone and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is naloxone HCl.

27. The transdermal dosage form of claim 25, wherein the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base is naloxone and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is naltrexone HCl.

28. The transdermal dosage form of claim 25, wherein the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base is nalmefene and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is naloxone HCl.

29. The transdermal dosage form of claim 25, wherein the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base is nalmefene and the pharmaceutically acceptable salt is naltrexone HCl.

30. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base is selected from the group consisting of cyclazocine, naloxone, naltrexone, nalmefene, nalbuphine, nalorphine, cyclazacine and levallorphan.

31. The transdermal dosage form of claim 30, wherein the opioid antagonist in the form of a free base is selected from the group consisting of naloxone, naltrexone and nalmefene.

32. The transdermal dosage form of claim 11, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an opioid antagonist is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an opioid antagonist selected from the group consisting of cyclazocine, naloxone, naltrexone, nalmefene, nalbuphine, nalorphine, cyclazacine and levallorphan.

33. The transdermal dosage form of claim 32, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an opioid antagonist is a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of an opioid antagonist selected from the group consisting of naloxone, naltrexone and nalmefene.

34. A kit for treating pain in a patient, comprising:

a) the transdermal-delivery device of claim 11; and

b) a printed set of instructions directing the use of the transdermal dosage form to treat pain.

35. A method for treating or preventing pain in an patient comprising contacting the skin of an patient in need thereof with the transdermal-delivery device of claim 11 for an amount of time sufficient to treat or prevent pain.